



THE BEAMER

RAIN RAIN GO AWAY!!

"The 2008 season is well underway and, although the British weather seems to be trying its best to damper our spirits, here at The Beamer however the sun is always shining, the tea is always ready and we are now ready to present our third issue.

So far, the form of all of our 6 adult sides has been decent with a few wins for all the teams. Improvements will need to be made if all teams want to attain promotion however. With only the second team seeming to be able to avoid games being abandoned consistently, they are the highest place team sitting top of their division at time of writing.

The other sides will be hoping those big black clouds clear and that they can start to deliver on the promise that all teams are showing.

Amongst the new features for this issue (and for forthcoming issues) The Beamer will be revealing the top performing players within the club, so read on to find out who is in hot form so far this season!"

Ed.

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THE BEAMER NEWS...

Dinner & Dance date declared

This year's Presentation Dinner & Dance will be held at the prestigious Stockbrook Manor in Billericay on Saturday, 1st November 2008. The ticket price is currently being finalised, but is indicated to be around the £45.00 mark which will INCLUDE ALL house wine, beer and soft drinks at the tables, a Bucks Fizz reception AND transport by coach to and from the venue. Read on for further details...

New 'Stat Service' supplied in this newsletter!

With the new season underway, every issue of The Beamer will now have a list of the top ten run scorers and wicket thieves through the Saturday league sides. All league scores will be counted so that we can all see the performers within the club!

Barbados Cricket Tour

Unfortunately after the circulation of information regarding the proposed tour to Barbados next year, there was insufficient interest for the club to move forward with the idea. The committee has therefore decided to put the touring idea on hold for the moment, but are still considering possible locations for the future.

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- Sponsor -





Sponsor the Club

Would you like your company to appear HERE in our Newsletter?

The club is currently looking for sponsors, and has a range of options that any potential-sponsor would be able to consider, from kit, equipment, or pavilion sponsorship, to event sponsoring and more media-prominent projects.

If you'd be interested in investigating Leigh-on-Sea cricket club sponsorship further, please get in contact with either:

- Richard Stubbington (RICHARD_STUBBINGTON@YAHOO.COM)
- Simon Burch (SIMON.BURCH@VIRGIN.NET)

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Obituary

It is with regret that we mark the passing of Don Turner who sadly passed away on the 10th May after a long illness.

Don joined Leigh-on-Sea Cricket Club in the 1955 season as an up and coming all-rounder and took 34 wickets in his debut season.

His career record for the Club during 16 seasons was:-

Runs	Innings	Not outs
5,096	232	21
Highest Score	Centuries	Wickets
112	5	213

He was Saturday 1st XI Vice-captain in the 1966 season and Captain in seasons 1967 to 1969. He played his last season in 1970 before moving away from the area.

In the 1962 Captain's report, Edgar Ward wrote - "Don Turner, who scored the only century, had quite a good season and is undoubtedly the most stylish batsman in the Club."

Don's most successful season was in 1966 when he scored 686 runs and topped the averages with 42.8. In the Captain's report of that year, Jack Carr wrote - "The highlight of the season was, of course, Don Turner's batting. This promising youngster really came good and with his three centuries he was

consistency itself and got us out of many tricky situations."

His presence at the Past Players' President's lunches will be greatly missed.

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This year's Presentation Dinner & Dance will be held at Stockbrook Manor, Saturday 1st November 2008. Ticket price this year will include transport by coach to and from the venue. (The ticket price will be discounted for those not taking up the offer of transportation.)

Entertainment will take the form of a DJ post-meal and presentations, and this year will run until 2am!

Ticket numbers that do include transportation will be limited to the first 100 (with pick-up points to be decided), and total numbers are limited to 160 (which is slightly lower than last year) Tickets will be on a first come first serve basis.

All tickets must be purchased **before** this years event, and information regarding ticket purchase will be available behind the club bar or from Simon Burch imminently.

Don't miss out on the chance to throw on your glad-rags and be seen at LOSCC's premier social event - make plans for your tickets today!!!

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THE GRILLING...

1. Name?

"Sean Elliott"

2. Favourite shot?

"The front foot whip through midwicket, with my back foot just slightly off the ground. Taught that Pietersen all he knows."

3. What is your favourite nickname that you have been given at Leigh on Sea?

I don't really like any of them to be honest but the one that has stuck over the years is 'The Russian' so I suppose that is the best of a bad bunch. Thanks for that Freeman!"

(Just in case anyone wondered what some of the others are, then here is a short list of the more memorable of Sean's many nicknames... Scamp, The Crab, Sackov, Grim Reaper, Quick Liston, Mini Kev and Elliup - Ed.)

4. Would you say you were the best looking player at Leigh on Sea?

"Well I can't say that there is much competition really! I think you should probably ask other people about that though. I would imagine it would come down to either me or someone like Sibbo. Too close to call I reckon"

5. Whose cricketing ability would you rather have, your dads, Stuarts or Steve's?

"Hmmm, well we are all extremely talented in our family! I would say Stuart though, at the end of the day he is the club captain, I need to keep him happy."

6. How would you answer critics that call you the 'man of glass'?

"I'm not looking to answer any critics, let's just get through this season first and talk about it later."

7. What phrase are you most likely to be heard using on the cricket field?

"Come on feIIIIllaaaaaaas"

8. If you could give one piece of advice to a young cricketer at Leigh what would it be?

"Always play with a smile and whatever you do, don't get a girlfriend!"

(Natalie is sure to be happy about that one Sean - Ed.)

9. What is your most embarrassing moment as a cricketer?

"3rd XI game against Southend last year, I had hit 3 square cuts for 4 and then got sledged by a little kid fielding at midwicket who said 'He's only got one shot'. Thinking I would get him back I tried to whack the next ball directly at him, but I missed it and got bowled instead. I hate that kid!"

(Sean later tried to get his own back by stooping down to the 12 year olds level, by saying 'lets see how many shots you've got then!' when the small boy came in - Ed.)

10. If you could bring one former Leigh player back to the club who would it be?

"Mark Powell, that's what we need right now. Class batsman"

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CONTRIBUTE TO THE CLUB WEBSITE...

The club website WWW.LEIGHCRICKET.COM is still available online 24/7 to broadcast your news and views.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, EMAIL winnsworld@yahoo.com FOR ACCESS

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**THE HOT CORNER...**

Who has got more runs? Damo or Knox? Matt or Simon? Ben or Toby? Is Sean knocking more batsmen over than Madder?

This section shows cross-team stats with, all runs and wickets in league cricket accounted for across all teams.

So, who really has been **hot** this season.

RECORDS UP TO DATE AS OF 16TH JUNE

BATTING	I	R	Hs	AV
1. D CLARKE	5	253	83	50.6
2. S BROWN	5	159	85	39.7
3. R DAYNES	4	154	80	38.5
4. M WALLACE	5	139	58*	34.7
5. D LISTON	5	127	35	25.4
6. V HEWITT	3	126	93	63
7. P MORGAN	3	111	80*	55.5
8. T KNOX	3	88	49*	88
9. S BURCH	4	88	49	22
10. R STUBBINGTON	4	86	80*	43

BOWLING	O	W	AV	SR
1. J PETTITT	44	11	15.18	24
2. D ARCHER	36.1	9	13.30	24.11
3. D CATCHPOLE	30	8	17.12	25.87
4. T KNOX	43	8	17.62	32.25
5. D CATCHPOLE	30	8	17.12	25.87
6. J BRAITHWAITE	52.5	8	16.62	39.62
7. SE ELLIOTT	49	8	21.62	36.7
8. B GILES	25	7	10.14	21.42
9. D POWER	26.3	7	20	22.71
10. R MADDER	25	6	8	25
11. S HAMILTON	45	6	24.6	45

MEET YOU THERE!...**Nets**

Outdoor nets are now up and running, all are welcome to attend for batting, bowling and fielding practice.

Where – Chalkwell Park
When – Tuesday evenings
Times - 6.30pm onwards

Youth Nets

Youth nets have moved from Sunday mornings to Friday evenings. If anyone fancies coming down to help out in any way or to just pop in and support the bar for the evening then the club is open from 6.30 pm!

Where – Chalkwell Park
When – Friday evenings
Times - 6.30pm onwards

Details of other events will be here in future months so please take note and mark them into your diary! If you want your event advertised then please contact us at

THEBEAMER2008@YAHOO.CO.UK

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY...**Midweek games**

The first midweek game is due to be held on the 9th July against a TBA opposition

Cricket Week

Is only a few weeks away so start booking your annual leave for the games you want to be a part of! (2 pm starts for all games)

Fixtures:

JULY 21st Old Southendians
JULY 22nd Denis Freeman XI
JULY 23rd Wilson James XI
JULY 24th Ardleigh Green
JULY 25th Chinghoppers

Entertainment for the evenings is still to be announced...



SPECIAL GUEST ARTICLE:

Here at The Beamer, we like to recognise both the physical and the intellectual talent that exists within this club. As such, the management have decided to release a series of articles by new first team all-rounder Mr R. A. Stubbington "Stubbo".

Stubbo is a self confessed 'student of the game' and will be providing you with some handy guides to some areas of cricket he believes are overlooked by some players and in dire need of investigation.

So without further ado, this is the Stubbo guide to...

"Looking Good at the Crease and the Importance of Visual Impression"

The world these days is undoubtedly a superficial place, with fickle flip-flop decision making, warped logic, and a seemingly inexhaustible need for style regardless of substance. In order to make hay in such a sun-less world, the value of looking good and creating a lasting impression cannot be underestimated. Nowhere can this be seen to be more appropriate than in the microcosm of society that is the modern day amateur cricket club. It is particularly relevant for those ambitious young men who strive to climb the ranks to the exalted status of 'quality batsman'.

The path has pitfalls at every turn, and there are many would-be admirers' eyes to please along the way, so...where should one start on the road to *looking good at the crease*?

Undoubtedly, the first visual impression is created long before arriving at the crease to begin a (hopefully) telling innings of guile, panache and controlled aggression. It is made when, departing the dressing room fully padded up, you arrive in front of the pavilion. This could be well before your innings begins, but the lasting impressions can already be made, or classic school boy faux pas committed.

Never was this more evident than in the case of a young(er) Arron Kerner. Padded up and ready to stride to the crease, young Kerner sought some vital pre-inning practice, knelt down attired in canvas pads...and destroyed any hope of looking good that day.



Kerner in the sh*t!

As they say, a picture speaks a thousands words, and Kerner's pads (left), with one of Leigh-on-Sea's canine's finest offerings smeared across the knee roll tells you all you need

to know.

Many banana skins are presented to the batsman before even stepping onto the field of play. By following a couple golden rules you

can of course minimise the potential for doing 'a Kerner'.

1. **Prepare in suitable time**

The timeless rule of having two batsmen padded up isn't simply about avoiding a time-out. Few things can embarrass the incoming batsman more than sprinting from the pavilion, shirt hanging out, thigh pad unfastened and slipping down the leg, only to realise on taking guard that the most vital piece of equipment is back in the pavilion (where the batsman will no doubt soon follow).

After a hat trick at Buckhurst Hill, Steve Elliott went from being able to relax in a cricket shirt and pair of shorts, to being next in, in very quick time. Cue a frantic scramble for kit that resulted in Steve arriving at the crease still strapping on pads and relocating 'inner protection'. Result - embarrassment.

Clearly then timely preparation is key... and if you take the Ben Giles approach of padding up five positions before you are due, you may avoid umpiring duty as well!

2. **Maintain composure**

Another classic mistake is that of the nervous batsman, pacing back and forth whilst looking for small children to throw down a couple of 'sighters' that in the scheme of things will offer the most minimal of value. When pacing there is the danger of equipment malfunction, heightened nervous disposition resulting in need for bowel movement, and stepping in something you'd usually find Arron kneeling in. You have two options here;

a) Sit in a deck chair, observe the game with casual indifference, exuding the cool, calm and collected air of someone supremely confident in his ability, or



A young Liston practices looking good in front of colleagues

b) Stand in front of your playing colleagues, practicing elegant backfoot drives and searing cut shots sending imaginary deliveries to all parts of the ground. Spectators and opposition alike will know that you are a force to be reckoned with!

However, if you are not very careful, your ability to make the right impression when striding out to the middle could have been irreparably compromised during the padding up process (or more pertinently, even before that, when you were preparing for the season ahead).

A classic pre-season misjudgement is seen in the likes of Ryan Madder.



Mr. Madder has fallen for the marketing man's gimmick of 'as worn by Sachin Tendulkar' pads - curved, fabric fronted, moulded monstrosities that even the little genius looked questionable in. What young Ryan has failed to realise is that Tendulkar had so much skill that within minutes people stopped focusing on the ludicrous legwear and began admiring his cover drive. Madder's batting skills in contrast create less of a sense of awe and indeed lead some to make comparisons with a drunken vagrant swinging wild punches in the direction of non-existent attackers before collapsing in a booze induced stupor.

Another common visual mistake here is the "drainpipe pads" phenomenon. Surely nothing aside from a rolled up work shirt, floppy hat and chewed piece of grass can look more village than pads that appear moulded to the ankles. Reason being the psychological impression made by this vision of - weak legs, weak batsman. Coupled with this comes the potential loss of circulation leading onwards down the slippery slope to fully fledged Deep Vein Thrombosis!

Of course some take such care to avoid this that they go to extremes. Youth players P Morgan and J Sexton can often be seen with pads so loose at the ankle they risk engulfing their whole foot in the search for the 'low slung' look, hence becoming parodies of well dressed pugilists...but they'll learn (one hopes)!

So, your time comes to bat. All eyes are on you; walk out looking strong and dignified and there'll be immediate respect all round; approach the crease looking like a walking wicket and there'll be enthusiastic fielders all too eager to stand at close quarters with a myriad of 'humorous' remarks to make. The look here is 'seasoned, unflustered pro' with a confident swagger. This can all too easily be undone by a wardrobe malfunction, or worse, the squeaking of your new ice-white pads and glare inducing fresh out of the box spikes (as one T Giles displayed at the start of this season-and continues to battle).

Danger elements during crease approach are:

- Responding to fielders comments aggressively e.g. Renvoize's snarling assault at anyone breathing in his direction
- Taking guard in a bizarre fashion e.g. Monk's request for 2 legs with the full face of the bat presented
- Striding out like a lumberjack e.g. Liston's walk/run out to the middle like a crazed man ready for war

Simply keep it simple and keep it assured - calm, cool and confident is your mantra!

The game is on, the bowler is running in, the first ball is on its way. How to cement that air of superiority over all that watch you at this point? Simple...the exaggerated leave!

Few 'shots' in cricket say, "I know what I'm doing" like the stylish, exaggerated first ball leave. Little can go wrong, unless of course the ball is straight, as you thrust out your pad, bat high in the air, head up, winking back at the bowler with an attitude that says "You pose me no danger, and I'll play shots when I'm good and ready." Contrast this with a nervy predetermined front foot thrusting defensive shot and there is only one winner. The leave cuts out the risk of a play and a miss, an edge, or a rap on the pads and a nerve fraying speculative appeal. It is the only option!

As the innings progresses, there are some other techniques to be employed to show you're a class above the rest:

The extended follow through (post-shot completion, it should be deliberate, forceful and with an air of flamboyance)

The Kodak moment practice shot (preferably with a fielder paid to murmur, "I just hope one of those doesn't connect")

The saunter between the wickets (to spectators on the side this exudes authority)

High top elbow (makes any shot look classy, like a rich man's Michael Vaughan)



Stubbo shows top-elbow on the beach!

Eventually (unless you manage to carry your bat!) your innings will end - sometimes positively and at other times in dismay. This presents the next opportunity to make a lasting impression. At this point, the batsman's mantra must be the 'dignified exit'. No greater demonstration of the importance of maintaining dignity has been seen in recent years than by Jon Threadgold's exit against Chelmsford. Having been dismissed, so bitter was Threadgold that the gloves came off and, amidst harsh, self chastising words, self harm was attempted with one glove. Sadly for John this was achieved with as much success as his last shot had been. The glove left his grasp, flew off backwards and finished back at the site of his innings' demise. Cue JT turning, trudging back to the wicket, bending down to collect the offending glove, and having to then depart the scene for a second time. Dignity at that moment was nothing more than a pipe-dream.

In summary, we can see that through careful considered preparation, orderly organisation, and application of simple mannerisms, even the most unstylish of individual can place themselves in a position to be thought of as the prize wicket, the failure deserving one more chance, or the prospect that all should hold in high-hopes and esteem.

And remember...Look Good. Feel Good. Play Good.

R.A.S.
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